

## Asquith Has It Out With French

THE recent controversy between Lord French and Mr. Asquith has revived all the old bitterness and more than the old bitterness of 1915 and 1916, when the famous shells controversy led first to the formation of the coalition ministry under Mr. Asquith, then to the recall of Lord French and the substitution of Sir Douglas Haig as commander-in-chief of the British armies, and finally to the fall of the Asquith government and the coming of Lloyd George to power.

Lord French in his book "1914," says he started the first controversy, and claims credit for overthrowing the Asquith government. The last chapter of his book is devoted to shells, and in it he says:

"From the beginning of the battle of the Aisne up to the close of the battle of Loos, at the end of 1915, the scanty supply of munitions of war paralyzed all our power of initiative and, at critical times, menaced our defence with irretrievable disaster. I exhausted every effort, by urgent official demands to the War Office and personal appeals to Lord Kitchener and such Cabinet Ministers as I came in contact with. Nothing less than my deliberate conclusion, after all these measures had failed and nine months of war had elapsed, that the empire itself was in jeopardy, forced me to act in May, 1915, as I did.

"I was conscious before taking this step, which meant the overthrow of the government, that it also meant the end of my career in France with all the hopes and ambitions that only a soldier can understand."

### Determines on Course

On May 9, when the battle of Festubert began, Lord French

"determined on taking the most drastic measures to destroy the apathy of a government which had brought the empire to the brink of disaster. A friend was standing by my side on the tower, and to him I poured out my doubts and fears, and announced my determination. He warned me that the politicians would never forgive the action I proposed, and that it meant my certain recall from the command in France. But my decision was made, and I immediately started for my headquarters fully determined on my future course of action.

Lord French gave instructions that evidence should be furnished to the military correspondent of "The Times," who happened to be then at headquarters, that the vital need of high explosive shells had been a fatal bar to our army success on that day.

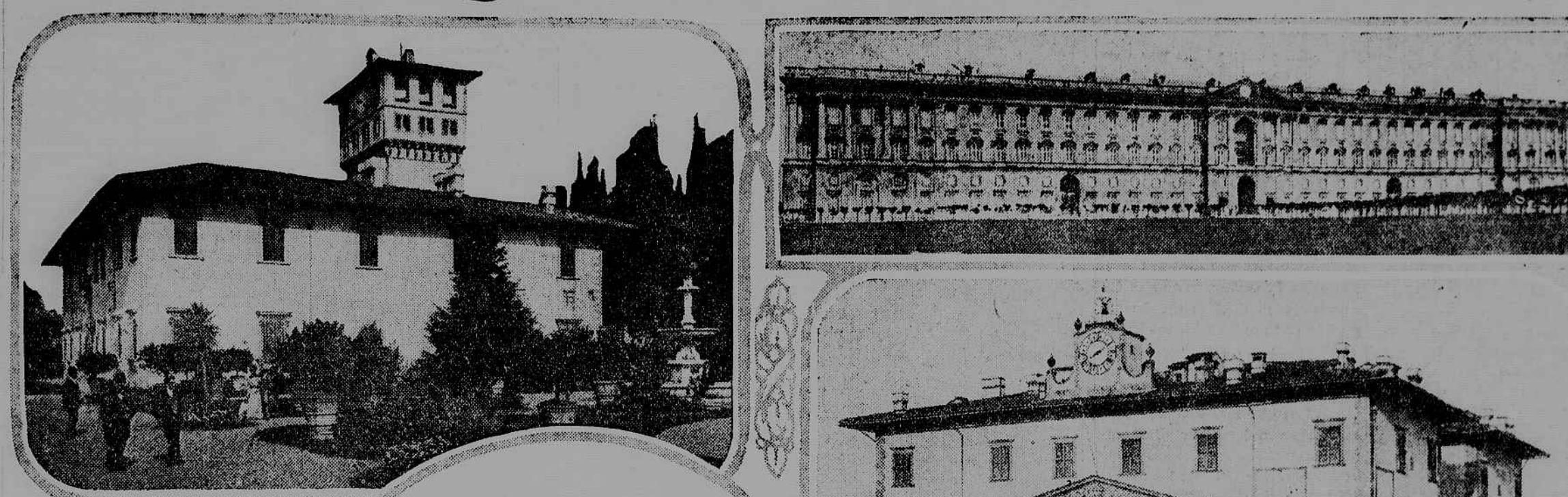
The credit for starting the second controversy also belongs to Lord French, for it was the publication of his book that did it. When these statements appeared over Lord French's signature Mr. Asquith felt called upon to reply to them, and he did so in public speeches. At New-castle he said:

"I came here in April, 1915, when we had nearly nine months of the war. I made a speech then which has been more unscrupulously and shamelessly travestied than perhaps any public utterance of our time. I kept silence about these misrepresentations, which were made for political purposes, while the war was going on, but no such reserve is any longer necessary. From the very first days of the war the adequate supply of munitions for our rapidly expanding forces—for Lord Kitchener, remember, was developing those great new armies with which his name will always be illustriously associated—was the subject of serious solicitude to the government. So far back as the month of September, 1914, when the war was not a month old, I appointed a strong Cabinet committee, presided over by Lord Kitchener, and of which, among others, the present Prime Minister and Lord Haldane were members, to deal with the matter in all its aspects. That committee worked hard and continuously from the first. They gave orders wherever orders could be given, and they succeeded also in substantially enlarging both the field and the machinery of supply. That development of new methods of warfare on an unprecedented scale, far beyond the forecast of any expert in this or any other country, upon which ammunition began to be expended in the winter and spring of 1915, increased the urgency of the situation, and that necessity for adding any prospective means of supply was actually felt both by the commander in chief in the field and by Lord Kitchener. I accordingly, as head of the government, resolved on taking an unusual step, and upon coming down here myself to urge upon the men of the Tyneside primarily, and through them upon the community at large, that an increase in the out-turn of munitions had become even more urgent than the growth in the volume of recruiting.

### Assured by French

"Before I left London I made the most careful inquiry of the highest military authority whether it was true that up to that date our operations had been crippled or seriously hampered by lack of munitions. I was assured by Lord Kitchener, who informed me that he had been the day before in London in direct personal communication with Sir John French,

# Italian King Gives Palaces to Charity



Above—Palace of Monza  
Right—Castle of Moncalieri

Rome (By Mail).

KING VICTOR EMANUEL III of Italy has just renounced all the rights on seven of his royal properties, with all the buildings, art treasures and furniture therein, in favor of wounded and crippled soldiers and of the orphans of soldiers killed during the war. This gift was simply announced, as befitting the most democratic sovereign in Europe and the "humblest citizen of Italy," as he called himself recently in a speech. The royal castles of Monza and Moncalieri, the palace of Caserta, the villas at Petraia, Castello and Poggio Cajano and the estate of Coltano are included in the gift, inspired only by gratitude toward the men who fought for their country.

The greatest need in connection with the relief of wounded and permanently disabled soldiers naturally consisted in finding proper accommodation for training schools and asylums, and the solution of this difficult problem has thus been simplified.

Probably the best known royal residence abroad is the castle of Monza, near Milan, where King Humbert was assassinated. It was built in 1777, by the architect Piermartino, by order of the Empress of Austria, Maria Theresa, for her son, the Archduke Ferdinand. Although originally planned as a hunting lodge, it was converted into a beautifully decorated palace with gorgeous gardens. Cardinals spent the summer holidays in one of its buildings, and during the French occupation of Milan the stepson of Napoleon I used it as his residence.

that that was not the case; and it was on the strength of that assurance—and I do not know where else I could have gone for authentic information—that I made that statement as to the past in Newcastle which has been so much quoted. Was it for me, or for any one in my position, to question or to doubt the accuracy of that statement? How could I? Being given to me by the highest of all authority, I should have been wanting in my duty if I had not imparted it to the country. That statement, as I have said, was carefully limited to the past, and I did not attempt to conceal from my audience here, or from the country outside—indeed, the very reverse was the sole purpose of my visit—our anxiety as to the future. I pointed out—and you will forgive my going into this in some detail, because this is one of the grossest calumnies among many gross calumnies that have been circulated during the war—I pointed out here the sacrifices that were required both from masters and men, the necessity for the time of the limitation of profits, and the suspension of trade union rules and customs, of the drawing in from the outside of skilled men to take the place of those who had voluntarily gone to the front, and of broadening the basis of the production of munitions by utilizing works devoted to other purposes.

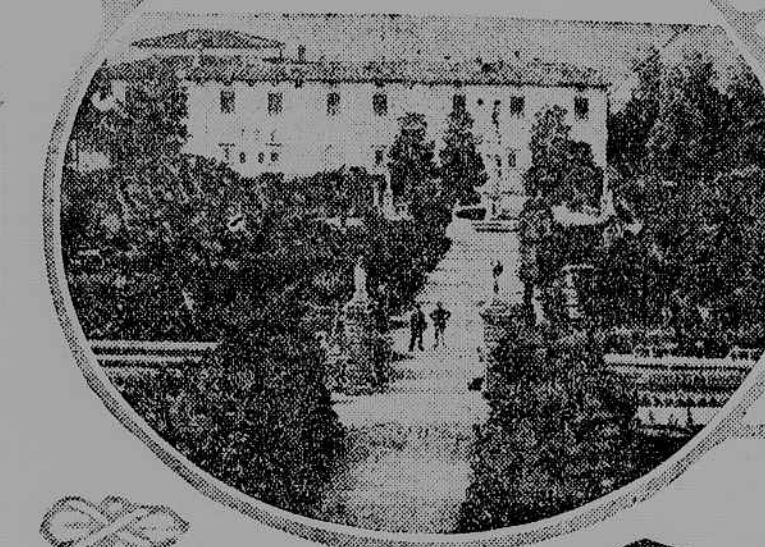
"And I summed in terms which I will quote textually. I venture to say not one in one hundred thousand of those who have referred to my speech have ever read the words I used at the time. What were they? They are on record, and they are these:

"There is not a single naval or military authority among us who, in view of the approximate and prospective requirements, does not declare that a large and rapid increase in the output of munitions has become one of the first necessities of the state."

"And this is the only peroration I attempted:

"This, then I say: 'What in the name of your King and country we ask you to do is to deliver the goods.'"

"I am glad to have this opportunity of telling you that that is a speech in which I am charged with lulling the nation into a sense of false security, and I am glad also to remember—and I have abundant evidence to prove it—that that speech had precisely the ef-



The royal palace of Caserta is known as the Versailles of Naples. It served as the summer residence of the Bourbons and consists of a massive and imposing castle dominating one of the most verdant and well cultivated plains in Italy, 5,830 feet long, with thirty-seven windows on each floor. The interior is built around courtyards. A wide staircase leads from the ground floor to the upper part of the palace, which contains, besides a chapel, a theatre. The gardens stretch for two miles around the building and are decorated with statues, waterfalls and fountains, for which a special aqueduct was built.

The castle of Moncalieri, near Turin, was the residence of the House of Savoy before the union of Italy. It was built in the thirteenth century and is ideally situated. Besides a wonderful picture gallery illustrating of the history of the House of Savoy, it contains a collection of valuable furniture.

Of the three Tuscan villas included in the gift, the Villa Petraia was celebrated since the times of the Medici for its wonderful flower gardens. In the fourteenth century the Brunelleschi family fortified the villa. When besieged by the Anglo-Germans under Hawkwood the Brunelleschi successfully defended it. The villa changed ownership sev-

eral times until it passed to the Medici family, who decorated it with frescoes, furnished it gorgeously and rendered it a perfect country house in every respect. The Villa Castello is also a Medicean property and one of the favorite residences of the reigning family, and its gardens are most extensive and artistic. Finally, the third villa of Poggio Cajano, on

## London Awaits the Kaiser

AS THE announcement has been officially made that the ex-Kaiser is to be tried in England, the British public is greatly interested in the forthcoming event, and is discussing the how, when and where. "The Times," which has long been accustomed to laying down the law on all manner of subjects, has no hesitation in this case. It says:

"William II of Hohenzollern, formerly German Emperor, as he is described in Part VII (Penalties) of the peace treaty, will be tried by five judges, one appointed by each of the following powers: The United States of America, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. As the trial is to take place in London, the English judge presumably will be president of the tribunal. He has been publicly arraigned for a supreme offence against

international morality and the sanctity of treaties. He will accordingly be tried for his action in causing the violation of the neutrality of Belgium and Luxemburg, which Prussia had guaranteed by treaty."

### "Remember the Lusitania!"

There was a good deal of wonder over the limitation of the indictment to Belgium and Luxemburg. The British people thought the sinking of the Lusitania and other acts of the German submarines would be among the counts preferred against the Kaiser. "Why should he not be indicted for the barbarities of his officers at sea, mainly directed against British subjects sailing in British ships?" the British people asked. "The Times" explains:

"The Allies had a very good reason for limiting the indictment to these specific counts and in not arraigning him for his general conduct on the eve of and during the war. They are de-

termined that the course of justice shall not be defeated by the law's delays."

Where the late Emperor will be held during his trial is a puzzling question. The answer at first seemed obvious, and "The Times" said: "The Tower of William the Norman awaits the latest of its long roll of royal prisoners." But two days later there was a change, as follows: "Finally, it is stated that there is little likelihood of the Kaiser's being lodged in the Tower of London before and during his trial. It is more likely that a secure retreat will be found for him in the country."

Another problem arises in the question of procedure. Once more "The Times":

"The trial will be unique. There is no precedent for it, and the only parallel of any kind in modern times for the trial of a foreign sovereign on English soil is the case of Mary Queen of Scots. There has hitherto been no code of international law making provision for a case of this kind. The peace treaty has, however, filled the gap. The tribunal is instructed to be guided in its decision by the

highest motives of international policy, with the view to vindicating the solemn obligations of international undertakings and the validity of international morality."

"Again, there are no rules of procedure yet in existence. I should not, however, take long to frame these. A committee of the Allies will shortly be appointed to see that Germany carries out the terms of the treaty. This committee will appoint a number of commissions to deal with different branches of the treaty. One such commission will be entrusted with the execution of the penalties section, and it is understood that Great Britain will be represented on it by one of the English law officers, Sir Gordon Hewart, and Sir Ernest Pollock. This commission will take all the necessary steps to insure that the tribunal is properly constituted, and that it is in a position to exercise its high functions."

What Punishment?

As for punishment:

"Although punishment is in the discretion of the court, it is understood that the Allies will not press for the death penalty. They argue that they do not wish to present the Germans with a 'martyr' ready-made. In their view detention for life would be a more severe punishment."

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A couple of days for thought permitted elaboration of the foregoing ideas:

"It will be the duty of the tribunal to fix the punishment which it considers should be imposed. Again, there is no precedent to guide the tribunal. The prevailing view is that punishment must take one of two forms—death or detention for life. The case of Napoleon III, of course, is a parallel, for he was sent to St. Helena without trial, and an act of indemnity was actually passed to relieve everybody concerned of any of the possible consequences of their action in that drama. But the actual punishment of Napoleon has always been present in the mind of the advisers of the Allied governments in the case of the Kaiser. It may be questioned, however, whether they would think it desirable to send him to such an isolated spot as St. Helena in these days of aeroplanes and submarines."

\$100,000,000 had been obtained by Martin Nordegg, representing the Deutsche Bank of Berlin. International bankers in New York said they knew nothing of Nordegg or the alleged loan.

It was reported in Brussels that German East Africa would be divided between Belgium and England in such manner as to assure the all-British Cape to Cairo route.

One of the American delegates to the International Federation of Trade Unions meeting at Amsterdam protested against the statement that capitalism was responsible for the war. He said American labor placed the responsibility on the monarchical military systems of Germany and Austria and that the Allies had destroyed these systems.



## Britain Has an Orgy of Spending

PEACE has brought an orgy of spending which high prices do nothing to check. The higher the price the easier it is for those who have money to draw big lines of demarcation between themselves and the crowd, says "The London Daily Mail."

"During the war it was not always possible to distinguish the man or woman of wealth from the rest of the busy world. To-day the costumes, glove-makers, boot-makers, jewellers, florists and motorcar have brought back to Mme. Midas the long sought opportunity of showing the length of her purse. 'Her little summer frock,' her parasol, her gloves and shoes are now not only irreproachable but unattainable by the lesser world."

"The Mail" goes on with some examples of how the war profiteers spend their money. Everything to-day must be very new or very old, it says:

"Not too old—there is no great call for Roman and Greek antiquities, but just old enough to be quaintly 'antique.' The very newest things are probably the Belfast linen, 'straight from our own looms.' A man's linen handkerchiefs are valued in one Bond Street shop at £3 3s the dozen, as 2d for a plain square of fine cambric. All these and many other pretty things have been made since the government released the looms on April 1."

"But it is not handkerchiefs and pretty things for use for which the newly rich are writing big cheques. They have discovered the joys of beautiful blooms, fresh cut from the most expensive nurseries and glass-houses—£5 5s. for an orchid bloom; luscious fruit carefully forced and picked for the London market—£5 for a peach. Price here counts for nothing."

"These things are ordered and paid for in the monthly account, perhaps with a little gasp of astonishment at the size of the bill, but with the certainty that they are the right thing and the house or dinner table would be incomplete without them. A hundred pounds for flowers and £50 for fruit 'h'm, yes, but it was worth it—the show went off remarkably well, and even Mrs. So-and-so was complimentary!"

"The Bond Street caterers are delighted with their new clients. Their French chefs are back from the war, and Jean or Jacques has lost nothing of his cunning during the time he has been catering for headquarters mess. Rather he has added something to his knowledge and resourcefulness. So the dinner is ordered and cooked and served, and the bill goes in with no apology at all for its size. The newly rich know that everything is up in price and hard to get, and such skill must be well and promptly paid for if the success is to be repeated."

"There is no lack of diamonds and fine stones for those who have the money to buy. The old families are selling and the new are buying. Here they lie in sparkling array, the heirlooms of a great family, 'sold by order of the court.' Who with a swollen bank balance could refuse £5,000 for that wonderful spray with its big centre stone, or say 'no' to that square-cut emerald with its depths of purest green? Pearls are for the connoisseur, but a well-cut stone tells its own story to the woman of wealth."

"Second only to the possession of a fine wardrobe is the smart motorcar as a hallmark of a newly acquired wealth."

Showing how prices have gone up since 1914, "The Mail" compares prices at the summer sales of the big shops in 1914 with those of this year, remarking that the sales prices of 1914 were at least 25 per cent below current prices for that year. "The Mail" says:

"Comparing advertised 'sale' prices of 1914 with present prices and restricting the comparison to the same article bought at the same shop, we have the following:

	1914	1919
Muslin collar, each	1 s 6	4 s 6
Black silk hat	0 6	1 10
Real Panama hats	0 12	9 1 0
Dainty river frocks in tulle and lace	0 15	11 1 0
Cotton and linen	0 8 11 1/2	0 14 1/2
Cretonne	0 6	0 1 1/2
Blankets single bed	0 8 11	0 15 11
Blankets double bed	1 0 6	1 15 6
Down quilt	0 12	9 1 0
Bedspread, single	0 2 11 1/2	0 5 11 1/2
Quilted rug in soft tulle with white collar	1 5 11	7 17 6
Coat and skirt in black and white striped cords, tailored and lined	0 15 11	6 18 6
Three-quarter length black satin with white collar	1 1 6	2 2 6
Woolen skirt in white and black check	0 4 11	0 17 6
Crêpe de chine shirt, hemstitched muslin collar	0 11 9	1 13 0

"Women know too well the present price of good quality silk stockings and lace hose, which were offered as sale bargains in 1914 at 2s 8d and 1s 8d. Will the day return when a blanket cloth coat can be offered for 11s 11d without creating a riot in Oxford Street, or a washing blouse in white cotton crepe at 3s 9d?"

## The Week Abroad

Alexander Garbai, president of the Hungarian Soviet government, killed himself in the Assembly Building at Budapest after delivering a speech against the Soviet and the Communist supporters and accusing Bela Kun of leading the nation to ruin, according to the "Muenchener Nachrichten." Berlin reported that the Hungarian Peoples Commissaries proposed to the Allies the peaceful resignation of the Soviet and the formation of a new government.

Bela Kun's newspaper in Budapest said eighty-one Hungarian revolutionaries against the present Hungarian government were shot or hanged during June by order of Bela Kun.

The Allies issued a statement saying

that the Hungarian people could secure a removal of the blockade and receive food supplies only if they ousted Bela Kun and set up a truly representative government.

Seven additional days, until August 6, were given Austria for consideration of the peace terms. Austrian financial circles suggested national bankruptcy as a means of getting rid of the foreign and internal debts.

Premier Venizelos of Greece said the opposition of the American delegates to the cession of East Thrace to Greece was the cause of the delay in preparing the Bulgarian peace treaty.

A Red revolt is momentarily expected in Bulgaria, according to

dispatches from Copenhagen. Several demonstrations have occurred and the movement to establish a Soviet government is said to be widespread.

Dr. Georg Michaelis, the former German Imperial Chancellor, charged that the Kaiser spurned an offer of peace made by England and France through the Vatican in 1917. Ludendorff denied Michaelis's story, as did Alexandre Ribot, who was Premier of France at the time the offer was said to have been made.

The headquarters of the army of occupation at Coblenz gave permission for American commercial travellers to enter Germany by the Coblenz bridgehead. Berlin reported that an American loan of